

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 7 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

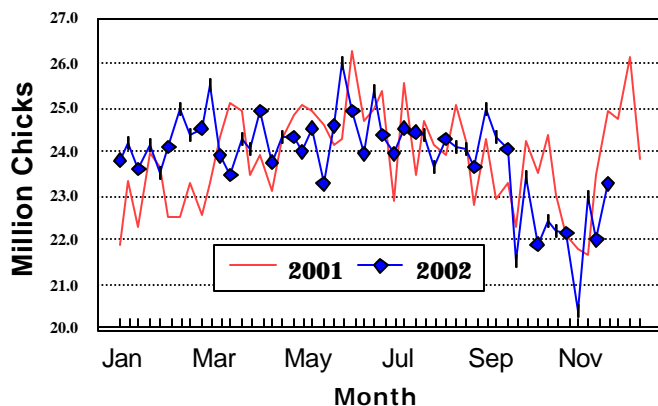
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 23.3 million during the week ending December 7, 2002. Placements were down 7 percent from the comparable week in 2001, but up 6 percent from the previous week, and included 2.6 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through December 7, 2002 were 1.17 billion, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 24.2 million, down 4 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but up 4 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.1 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.2 percent.

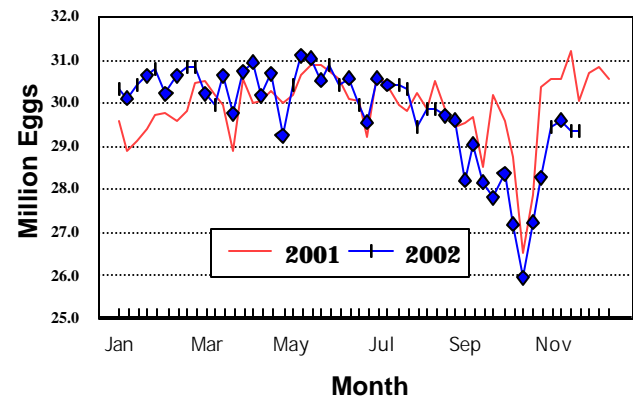
Arkansas hatcheries set 29.3 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending December 7, 2002, down 2 percent from the same period last year, and down fractionally from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2001	2002	% Change	2001	2002	% Change	2001	2002	% Change
	1,000			1,000			1,000		
Nov. 2	23,027	22,202	96	24,599	23,143	94	27,837	27,248	98
Nov. 9	22,127	22,150	100	23,854	22,589	95	30,372	28,284	93
Nov. 16	21,833	20,431	94	21,976	21,561	98	30,589	29,457	96
Nov. 23	21,689	22,968	106	23,031	22,459	98	30,582	29,624	97
Nov. 30	23,459	21,996	94	25,047	23,319	93	31,179	29,362	94
Dec. 7	24,937	23,291	93	25,189	24,209	96	30,081	29,336	98

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2001-2002



EGGS SET, 2001-2002



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2002

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/	Week Ending						1/
	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov	07-Dec	%	02-Nov	09-Nov	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov	07-Dec	%
Alabama	27,749 *	27,664	28,164	27,958	95	20,531	19,883	19,494	19,786	20,386	20,953	96
ARKANSAS	29,457 *	29,624	29,362	29,336	98	22,202	22,150	20,431 *	22,968	21,996	23,291	93
Delaware	3,397	3,376	3,600	3,415	96	5,549	5,279	4,245	4,909	4,810	5,314	111
Florida	2,330 *	2,260	2,258	1,582	66	2,071	1,989	2,270	2,348	2,467	2,091	83
Georgia	30,628 *	29,770 *	29,946 *	30,627	98	24,000	23,524	21,534	22,866 *	24,229 *	25,115	98
Kentucky	6,739 *	6,514	6,066 *	6,636	103	4,511	4,430	4,505	4,887	5,020 *	5,443	95
Maryland	9,238	9,249	9,890	9,947	119	5,165	5,156	5,965	6,160	6,131	5,312	90
Mississippi	17,822	17,771	18,691	18,505	99	14,405	13,844	13,673	13,872	15,265	15,125	98
N. Carolina	17,379 *	18,182	17,795	18,174	100	13,424	12,777	13,951	14,230	14,122 *	13,595	93
Oklahoma	6,391	6,407	6,320	6,386	100	4,378	4,142	3,895	3,269	5,144	4,525	87
Pennsylvania	3,146	3,697	3,489	3,501	92	2,454	2,287	2,391	2,591	2,527	2,366	86
S. Carolina	4,709	4,415	4,632	4,526	97	3,579	3,795	3,510	3,684	3,870	3,440	92
Texas	14,759 *	15,225 *	14,941 *	14,875	100	11,096 *	10,417 *	10,040	11,623 *	12,241 *	11,711	104
Virginia	6,105	6,224	6,211	5,984	92	5,019	4,717	4,297	4,444	5,288	4,861	96
CALAMO,IN,WV	19,235	19,419	19,777 *	19,275	98	16,725 *	17,301 *	17,327 *	17,422 *	18,253 *	18,823	104
Total 2002	199,084 *	199,797 *	201,142 *	200,727		155,109 *	151,691 *	147,528 *	155,059 *	161,749 *	161,965	
Total 2001	205,712	205,396	211,929	204,465		159,933	153,671	150,878	158,581	165,267	167,382	
% Prev. Year	97	97	95	98		97	99	98	98	98	97	
Approximate Marketing Date 2002-2003.....						21-Dec	28-Dec	04-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 201 million eggs during the week ending December 7, 2002. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 162 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 7, 2002. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week in 2001. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through December 7, 2002 were 8.16 billion.